



Environmental and Social Impact Barrington's Town Hall

Barrington's new town hall will be constructed on the site of the old town hall. This is roughly the geographical center of town. This site with a few minor changes will have the same impact that it has in the past. The building and parking areas are existing environmental impacts.

There is a playground on the site that will remain. In 2006 a group of Barrington's residents raised the money and supplied the labor to create this playground. Next to the playground is the rec center and the library that is bursting at the seams. A portion of the new town hall has a small basement area that will be used by the rec for storage and bathroom facilities. They hold their summer camp here using portable toilets. The new town hall site has been designed to accommodate a future addition of a library. When the library is built the rec would then have the library space that is above the rec's gym.

The design of the new town hall incorporates ICF's (insulated concrete forms). ICF's are more energy efficient than conventional built buildings. The roof area will be spray foamed. The design also incorporates air source heat pumps which use less energy to heat and cool the building and has a smaller carbon footprint than oil or gas systems. There is an ERV (energy recovery ventilation) system. All commercial buildings require air ventilation systems. The ERV recovers some of energy being exhausted instead of throwing it away.

The town has used many different meeting spaces over the past few years. The new town hall will have a large meeting space that will be large enough for most meetings. It has been designed so that it can be divided for smaller meetings or to accommodate more than one meeting at a time. There will be public use of the meeting space. This space is located on the end towards where the library would be built. Shared use of this meeting space is a more cost effected solution than to build a stand-alone structure with another meeting space.

Reuse of the existing site has minimal short term environmental impacts. Building an energy efficient building will have less long term environmental impact.

Bringing the town hall back to the center of town next to the library, rec and playground will bring back our diminishing sense of community.